

February 3, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Commission Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S.W.  
CY-B402  
Washington D.C. 20554

RE: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to you in regards to SBC Ameritech Michigan's entry into long distance phone service in Michigan.

It is becoming apparent to those of us living in Michigan that the local telephone market has become open to competition and that this competition for local service is now resulting in saving Michigan consumers money. I believe it is now time that Michigan residents were permitted to have the same competitive environment as it relates to long distance telephone service.

Telephone companies should be able to compete for all customers. Other states already are experiencing full competition and consumers are cashing in on the competitive offers. Increased competition in Michigan will bring higher quality and more innovative products and services that can save consumers money.

Allowing SBC to enter the long distance market will benefit our state's telecommunications industry and increase competition, making consumers the ultimate winners.

Sincerely,

Daniel S. Paletko  
State Representative  
17<sup>th</sup> House District